

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 010792

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNSC, RH, SF

REF: USUN 92

1. DURING JANUARY 13 BILATERAL UK/US CONSULTATIONS IN
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WASHINGTON, UKUN REPRESENTATIVE (BYATT) ADVISED THAT UKUN
HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO CALL FOR MEETING OF WESTERN FIVE
ON THE MORNING OF JANUARY 16 TO PREPARE FOR SUBSEQUENT
CONSULTATIONS REGARDING JANUARY SECURITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE.

2. ON BASIS OF POSITION TAKEN BY UK DELEGATION DURING
JANUARY 12-13 CONSULTATIONS, DEPARTMENT ASSUMES THAT AT

JANUARY 16 MEETING UK WILL SEEK TO LINE UP WESTERN FIVE BEHIND POSITION CALLING FOR VETO OF ANY AFRICAN RESOLUTIONS CALLING FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA EITHER ON BASIS OF RHODESIA OR SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNAL SITUATION.

3. AS US PARTICIPANTS IN BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS MADE CLEAR, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS TACTICAL APPROACH IS WISE. RATHER, WE FEEL THAT WESTERN FIVE SHOULD ADOPT FLEXIBLE APPROACH IN CONSULTATIONS WITH NIGERIANS AND OTHER AFRICANS AND AVOID CATEGORICAL UNDERTAKINGS TO VETO, OR FOR THAT MATTER TO SUPPORT, ANY SPECIFIC RESOLUTION. FROM WESTERN POINT OF VIEW, OUR KEY OBJECTIVE DURING COMING PERIOD IN NEW YORK WILL BE TO AVOID TWO DEVELOPMENTS WHICH COULD DAMAGE OUR RHODESIAN INITIATIVE:

A) WE WOULD WISH TO AVOID A RESOLUTION UNRELATED TO STATUS OF UK/US INITIATIVE. IN THIS REGARD, WESTERN FIVE SHOULD ARGUE THAT ANY RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL BE CLOSELY RELATED TO THE STATE OF PLAY ON THE RHODESIA INITIATIVE.

B) AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST AVOID ACTIONS WHICH WOULD JEOPARDIZE OUR EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN SUPPORT OF FRONT-LINE STATES AND PATRIOTIC FRONT FOR UK/US INITIATIVE. FIRM REFUSAL FROM THE OUTSET TO CONSIDER ANY SANCTIONS RESOLUTION PUT FORWARD BY THE AFRICANS COULD

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RAISE THIS DANGER.

4. DURING JANUARY 12-13 CONSULTATIONS, THERE WAS FULL AGREEMENT THAT OUR POSITION IN SECURITY COUNCIL WILL BE STRENGTHENED TO EXTENT THAT WE CAN DEMONSTRATE VITALITY OF UK/US INITIATIVE. IN PARTICULAR, DEVELOPMENTS SUCH AS PROPOSED MEETING BETWEEN OWEN AND LEADERS OF PATRIOTIC FRONT COULD BE USED BY WESTERN FIVE TO PRESENT CONVINCING ARGUMENT AGAINST TAKING PRECIPITATE MOVES AIMED AT FORCING PACE OF RHODESIA NEGOTIATIONS.

5. FINALLY, WE HAVE IMPRESSION ON BASIS OF MISSION'S REPORTING THAT AFRICANS HAVE BY NO MEANS REACHED FIRM POSITION REGARDING THEIR OBJECTIVES AND TACTICS DURING UPCOMING COUNCIL DEBATE. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE BELIEVE THAT FLEXIBLE WESTERN APPROACH IS BETTER CALCULATED TO STEER AFRICANS IN LEAST HARMFUL DIRECTIONS WHILE PRESENTATION FROM THE OUTSET OF FIRM RESOLVE TO OPPOSE ANY SANCTIONS RESOLUTIONS WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS CONFRONTATIONAL AND PROBABLY TEMPT AFRICANS TO TEST OUR POSITION.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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